Increase of Heart Cases in the country

978. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while heart attacks have decreased by 20-25 per cent in the United States in the last decade, more and more people are becoming vulnerable to the disease in India;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is a proposal under Government's consideration to issue any do's and don'ts to enlighten the people in this regard; and

(d) if so, what are the details in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) While there is a reported reduction in mortality rates from cardiovascular diseases in the USA since 1968, the prevalence rates of these diseases in USA have, in fact, registered an increase over the years. There are no authentic data regarding prevalence of heart diseases in India and it is difficult to say whether the apparent increase in heart cases is due to increased awareness amongst the population or due to an actual increase.

(c) and (d) Health Education is an important component of all health programmes and steps are taken to educate the people through mass media on various health problems including heart problems.

979. [*Transferred to the 12th March 1987*].

Printing of warning about excess Flouride on Tooth Paste

980. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference recently held at Madras recommended printing of a warning on tooth pastes that 'excess flouride' is injurious or harmful to health;

(b) if so, what is the maximum permissible limit of flouride content in the toothpaste; and

(c) what action Government have taken or propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Maximum permissible limit of flouride content in tooth paste has not yet been fixed.

(c) A Committee is being constituted to advise Government of the matter regarding permissible limits of flouride content in tooth paste.

Buildings for Schools

981. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some instructions have been issued to various States and Union territories for the construction of buildings for primary, elementary, middle and high schools;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether instructions have also been issued for providing other facilities in schools and if so, what are the details in regard thereto; and

(d) what amount was earmaked for the purpose for the year 1986-87 and how much out of it has so far been spent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (d) As per the